

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 9 July 2025: Arrival of participants and registration

Day One: Thursday, 10 July 2025

Time	Activity	Venue
8:00 - 10:00	Spillover of registration	Conference venue, UniAbuja
10:00 - 10:20	Welcoming dignitaries; Introduction of dignitaries; National anthem; UniAbuja anthem	Conference venue, UniAbuja
10:20 - 10:40	Welcome address by the convener	Conference venue, UniAbuja
10:40 - 11:00	Welcome address by the Acting Vice Chancellor	Conference venue, UniAbuja
11:00 - 11:05	Goodwill message by the Former Vice Chancellor, Prof. Abdul-Rasheed Na'Allah	Conference venue, UniAbuja
11:005 - 11:10	Goodwill message by the Dean, Faculty of Arts	Conference venue, UniAbuja
11:10 - 11:15	Goodwill message by the HOD, English & Lit Studies Dept.	Conference venue, UniAbuja
11:15 - 11:25	Cultural performance	Conference venue, UniAbuja
11:25 - 11:45	ISOLA presidential address	Conference venue, UniAbuja
11:45 - 12:15	Keynote address 1	Conference venue, UniAbuja
12:15 - 12:30	Closing and group photographs	Conference venue, UniAbuja

LUNCH BREAK
12:30pm - 1:30pm

PARALLEL SESSIONS

Day One, Thursday 10 July 2025
Parallel sessions: 1:30pm – 3:00pm

Panel 1: Digitizing oral forms (I)

Chairperson: Prof. Chiji Akoma

Venue: Room 1

1. **Constructing the History and Identity of the Luo Community through Digitalized Versions of *The Legend of Luanda Magere*.** Beatrice Grace Munala, Department of Literature University of Nairobi.
2. **Digital Recycling as Folkloric Revitalisation: The Case of Mike Ejeagha's *Gwo gwo gwo ngwo*.** Ignatius Chukwumah, Department of English and Literary Studies, Federal University, Wukari.
3. **Digitization of the Ibibio Proverbs in Anietie Akpabio's *The Saying of the Wise*.** Edoama Odueme.
4. **Exploring the Intersections of African Folktales and Digital Humanities: Evaluating Bukar Usman's Oral Text Retrieval and Archival Project in Nigeria Abubakar.** Liman Aliyu, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.

Panel 2: Digitizing oral forms (II)

Chairperson: Dr. Rose Opondo

Venue: Room 2

1. **Reconfiguring Oral Tradition: Integration of Digital Transformation and South African Oral Literature in Post-colonial Scholarship.** Khanyisa Twani, Veli Mashaba, & Fisokuhle Mbambo, University of Zululand.
2. **Urgent Need for the Digitisation of Undocumented Luhya and Tiv Oral Traditions.** Moses Fegher & Sheila Pamela Wandera-Simwa, Laikipia University, Nyahururu.
3. **AI-Powered Storytelling: A Tool for Preserving and Promoting Yoruba Folktales in Digital Age.** Adekemi Taiwo, Department of Linguistics & Nigerian Languages, Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria.
4. **Digitizing 'Jina': Providing Visibility to the Khanga's Oral Literary Messages.** Gloria Ajami Makokha, Uppsala University, Sweden.

Panel 3: Digitizing oral forms (III)

Chairperson: Dr. Abidemi Bolarinwa

Venue: Room 3

1. **The Collection and Digitization of yet to be Documented Oral Forms Across Genres.** Joseph Musungu, Kibabii University.
2. **Preserving Oral Traditions in Digital Form—Recounting the Indigenous Storytelling Traditions of the Akans and Dagombas of Ghana.** Rita Ndonibi & Faith Ben Daniels Akenten, Appiah Menka University of Skills Training and Entrepreneurial Development, Ghana.
3. **Reconsidering Urhobo Oratory: The Influence of English Integration and Digital Documentation on Traditional Oral Practices.** Emmanuel Tonukari, Department of Languages and Linguistics, Faculty of Arts, Delta State University, Abraka.
4. **From the Forge to the Wheel: Performance and Innovation of the Abaka Blacksmiths in Wukari, Taraba State, Nigeria.** Maryam Magaji Yusuf, University of Abuja, Abuja.

Panel 4: The preservation of cultural heritage

Chairperson: Dr. Bukar Usman

Venue: Room 4

1. **Voices of Heritage: Exploring Oral Narratives of Ankole Cultural Artifacts.** Kyarimpa Jovuret, Moi University, Kenya.
2. **Gusii Poetry for Ideological and Cultural Heritage.** Nyambane Fredrick Monanti Kaimosi, Friends University, Kenya.
3. **Towards a Sustainability of Yoruba Oral Poetic Genres: A Literary Appraisal of Evangelists Bola Are and Tope Alabi's Gospel Music.** Arinpe Adejumo, University of Ibadan, Nigeria.
4. **Exploring the Role of Oral Tradition in Preserving Cultural Heritage: A Case Study of Iya Ọmọ Festival Literature in Epinmi Àkókó.** Olukemi Morenike Olofinsao, Department of Linguistics and Languages, Federal University Oye, Nigeria.
5. **Framing the Past, Sustaining the Present and Preserving the Future: Film Production and the Preservation of Igbo Cultural Heritage.** Adaora Anyachebelu & Folorunso Adebayo.

SHORT BREAK
3:00pm – 3:15pm

PARALLEL SESSIONS

Day One, Thursday 10 July 2025

Parallel sessions: 3:15pm – 4:45pm

Panel 5: Trends in oral literature

Chairperson: Prof. Akinyemi Akintunde

Venue: Room 1

1. **Current Trends in the Use of Enigmatic Forms / Tendances actuelles dans l'utilisation des formes énigmatiques.** Tunde Akinyemi, Florida University, USA.
2. **A Further Consideration of Oral Performance and the African Imagination.** Maik Nwosu, University of Denver, USA.
3. **Oral Literature beyond Boundaries: An Intermedial Analysis of Yoruba Court Poetry.** Mulikah Lawal, University of Lagos, Nigeria.
4. **A Stylistic Analysis of the Intersection of Mythology and Oral Literature in Èṣù-Related Poetry.** Taofiq Saadu, Adeyemi Federal University of Education, Nigeria.
5. **Orality, Praise, and Performance in Abdul-Rasheed Na'Allah's Ilorin Trilogy.** Adetayo Alabi Adetayo Alabi, University of Mississippi, USA.

Panel 5: Festivals and performance (I)

Chairperson: Prof. Abdul-Rasheed Na'Allah

Venue: Room 2

1. **FESTASS: Reviving and Adapting Taasu for Moving and Changing World.** Marame Gueye.
2. **Performing the Nigeria-Biafra War: The Development of an Annual Festival in a Small Ijọ (Ijaw) Town.** Imomotimi Armstrong, Niger Delta University, Wilberforce Island.
3. **Revival and Sustainability of Oral Texts in Nsirimo Umuahia New Yam Festival Songs and Performances.** Ijeoma Ibeku, Department of English and Literary Studies, Federal University, Oye-Ekiti.
4. **Ebu Mbe'-The Song of The Tortoise: Literary and Oral Performance Features of Ebu Mbe Cultural Festival of Mgbom, Afikpo, Southeastern Nigeria.** Onyebuchi Nwosu, Sylvanus E. Oko & Bernard E. Orji, Alex Ekwueme Federal University Ndufu-Alike, Ikwo.
5. **Revival and Sustainability of African Festivals: Cultural and Social Integration in Pissi Tangle Festivals** Maikano A. Lamela, Department of English, Gombe State University Gombe.

Panel 6: Festivals and performance (II)

Chairperson: Prof. G. G. Darah

Venue: Room 3

1. **L'ABISSA DES NZIMA DE CÔTE D'IVOIRE ET DU GHANA: UN RITUEL MULTISECULAIRE DE PACIFICATION ET DE RECONCILIATION.** Gnankon Christophe -Richard Ekra, Université Félix Houphouët-Boigny, Abidjan.
2. **Aesthetics of African Festivals as Counter-Dramaturgies.** Peter Omoko & Emma Ikomi, Department of English and Literary Studies, Dennis Osadebay University, Anwai.
3. **Shared Narratives, Strengthened Identities: How Cameroonian Festivals Revitalize Oral Traditions and Promote Social Cohesion.** Kemayou Franck, Université Senghor, Alexandria.
4. **Performance of Ewi Oloore Ogidigbo Festival and Rituals for National and International Reconciliation and Healing.** Alonge Olusola, FCT College of Education, Zuba, & Arinpe Adejumo, University of Ibadan, Ibadan.
5. **Religious Festivals and Ritual Spaces: A Study of Literary and Functional Values of *Yekku* Traditional Festivals and Ceremonies** Maryam Sadiq Dangabar, Department of English, Gombe State University, Gombe.

Panel 7: Artifacts, museums, and sustainability

Chairperson: Prof. Tal Tamari

Venue: Room 4

1. **Revival and Sustainability of the Igbo Artefacts and Heritage Sites: Nri Museum in Perspective.** Nkoli Nnyigide, Nkoli Nnyigide, & Nkoli Mercy Nnyigide, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka.
2. **Revivification et durabilité des textes oraux, des artefacts et des sites patrimoniaux.** Amélie Diane Kouamou Sikapip, Faculté des Sciences - Université de Dschang, Cameroun.
3. **The National War Museum, Umuahia, the Nigeria-Biafra War Memorials, and the Preservation of the History of the War: A Critical Review.** Gloria Chuku, University of Maryland, Maryland.
4. **Textes oraux et enjeux de la valorisation du patrimoine en Afrique.** Abdoulaye Kouago & Pierre Roméo Akoa Amougui & Jean Marie Wounfa, Université Adam Barka d'Abéché Université, Adam Barka d'Abéché (Tchad) Université de Maroua, & Université de Ngaoundéré (Cameroun).

SHORT BREAK
4:45pm – 5:00pm

PARALLEL SESSIONS

Day One, Thursday 10 July 2025
Parallel sessions: 5:00pm – 6:30pm

Panel 8: Mystery cults, magico-religious chants, and divination rituals

Chairperson: Prof. Bola Sotunsa

Venue: Room 1

1. **The Role of Koreduga Society in Mali.** Olga Zavyalova, Saint Petersburg State [University](#).
2. **Stylistics of Ìyèrè-Ifá Corpus as Scripture During Burial Processions of Traditionalist in Oṣun State, Nigeria.** Esther Ojo, Kehinde Elujulo, & Abiodun Oyagbejo, University of Lagos, Lagos.
3. **The Supernatural Powers of the Tambari (Traditional Drums) of the Borgu People** Linda Mustafa, Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida University, Lapai.
4. **The Revival and Sustainability of Witchcraft of the Tiv of Nigeria in Metaphoric Political and Economic Models of Modernity** Ikyer Aondofa Godwin, Federal University, Wukari.
5. **A Socio-Cultural Appraisal of Burial Rites of Ìdó-Àní People of Southwest Nigeria.** Oluwatoyin Olaiya, Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti.

Panel 9: Healing and therapeutic oralities

Chairperson: Prof. Kolawole Gboyega

Venue: Room 2

1. **Stages of Healing: The Therapeutic Potential of Igbo Death-related Proverbs in Trauma Recovery.** Richard Ifeanyichukwu Nnamani & Dele Maxwell Ugwanyi, Enugu State University of Science and Technology, Enugu.
2. **A Lexico-semantic inquiry into the names of African plants and their healing potency.** Iyabode Nwabueze, National Open University of Nigeria, Department of English and Literature, University of Benin, Benin City.

3. **The Therapeutic Impact of Sacred Texts and Sites on Faith and Events in the 21st Century.** Gboyega Kolawole, University of Abuja, Abuja.
4. **Oralities of Healing and Ethnoconservation in Digo Oral Narratives.** Mark Obure-Morang'a, Department of Language and Cultures, Ghent University Ghent, Belgium.

Panel 10: Ancient mysticisms & the oral forms

Chairperson: Prof. Mabel Ewvierhoma

Venue: Room 3

1. **Unveiling the Mystique: A Critical Examination of the Yoruba Belief System in Selected Supernatural Animals.** Funmilayo Ajayi.
2. **Form, Content and Style in Songs of Mmanwu Cult in Ndokwa Community of Delta State, Nigeria.** Dike-Gegeri Gegeri, University of Delta, Agbor.
3. **Ranimer le Language Ancien des Tresses Traditionnelles Africaines.** Mama Konta.
4. **Stories in Stone: The Role of Heritage Sites in Cultural Identity and Resilien.** Dele Maxwell Ugwanyi & Richard Ifeanyichukwu Nnamani, Enugu State University of Science and Technology, Enugu.

Panel 11: Ecology and oral traditions

Chairperson: Prof. Sule Emmanuel Egya

Venue: Room 4

1. **Eco-Criticism of Two Hausa Short Stories: 'Budurwa Mai Neman Ganyen Miya' and 'Yan Matan Masu Kama Kifi'.** Daniel Ibrahim, Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida University Lapai.
2. **Oralities of Healing and Ethnoconservation of Biotic and Abiotic Factors.** Abidemi Bolarinwa, University of Ibadan, Ibadan.
3. **Engaging Oral Archives for Ecological Thinking: Some Examples from North Central Nigeria.** Sule Emmanuel Egya, Department of English Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida University, Lapai
4. **"Edia Nkpo, Eno Isong": In Search of an Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge.** Kufre Friesenhan, University of Alberta, Canada.

Day Two: Friday, 11 July 2025

Time	Activity	Venue
8:00 – 9:00	EC meeting	
9:00 – 10:00	Arrival at conference venue	Conference venue, UniAbuja
10:00 – 10: 40	Keynote 2	Conference venue, UniAbuja
10:40 – 10: 50	Cultural performance	Conference venue, UniAbuja

PARALLEL SESSIONS

Day Two, Thursday 9 July 2025

Parallel sessions: 11:00am – 12:30pm

Panel 12: Oral literature and the new media (I)

Chairperson: Dr. Nduka Otiono

Venue: Room 1

- 1. Content Creation, the Media and the Changing Modes of Documenting the Oral Experience.** Henry Obakore Unuajohwofia
- 2. Oral Traditions in the Digital Age: Exploring Sustainable Methods for Documentation, Preservation, and Transmission.** Rabiatu Lawal, Federal University, Dutse.
- 3. Orality in Motion: Mutability and Appropriation versus Preservation.** Felicity Wood English Department, University of Fort Hare, South Africa.
- 4. Preserving the Intangible: The New Media and the Sustenance of Oral Literature.** Chika Ose-Agbo and Joy Nwiyi, Federal University of Lafia, Lafia.
- 5. Radio and the Promotion of Oral Traditions in Nigeria's Ijo (Ijaw) Community.** Imomotimi Armstrong, Niger Delta University, Wilberforce Island.

Panel 13: Oral literature and the new media (II)

Chairperson: Prof. Razinat Mohammed

Venue: Room 2

- 1. Preserving Oral Traditions in Digital Form—Recounting the Indigenous Storytelling Traditions of the Akans and Dagombas of Ghana.** Rita Ndonibi & Faith Ben Daniels, Akenten Appiah Menka University of Skills Training and Entrepreneurial Development, Kumasi.

2. **Remediation of Proverbs: A Study of Animated Berom and Ngas Proverbs on Facebook.** Manta Yadok, Department of English and Literary Studies, Federal University Wukari.
3. **Revival and Sustainability of Oral Traditions in Wole Soyinka's *A Dance of the Forest: Exploring the Intersection of Heritage, Technology, and Epistemology*** Voke Udjo-Igboh, Delta State Maritime Polytechnic, Burutu.
4. **Revivification et durabilité des textes oraux, des artefacts et des sites patrimoniaux** Amélie Diane Kouamou Sikapip Faculté des Sciences - Université de Dschang Cameroun.
5. **From Orality to Media: Sustaining African Oral Tradition through New Technology.** Fatima Umar, Department of English Gombe State University, Nigeria

Panel 14: Oral literature and the new media (III)

Chairperson: Prof. Okey Okwechime

Venue: Room 3

1. **The Documentation of the Extinct *Shantu* Songs and Dances in Gombe State, Nigeria, for Revival and Sustainability.** Bilkisu Abubakar Arabi, Department of English, Gombe State University, Gombe.
2. **The Role of the New Media in the Transmission and Preservation of Uju-Agbadi (Agbadi, Dance), an Itsekiri Detective Ritual/Folkloric Dance Theatre of the Three Warri Local Government Areas of Delta State, Nigeria** Daniel Omatsola, Department of Theatre Arts University of Abuja Abuja.
3. **Digitizing Oral Traditions: The African Storybook's Role in Preserving African Languages and Cultures.** Mimi Emelia Werna, African Storybook (ASb) Champions Coordinator, West Africa.
4. **A Twin Heritage: The Rise of New University Orators in Nigeria and the Revival and Sustainability of Oral Tradition.** Nduka Otiono, Institute of African Studies, Carleton University Ottawa, Canada. & G.G. Darah, Delta State University Abraka, Nigeria.
5. **From Gentleman Mike Ejiagha's *Ka esi le onye isi oche* to Brain Jotter's *Gwo gwo gwo ngwo: Viral Media and the Revival and Sustainability of Oral Performance in Africa.*** Gloria Chimeziem Ernest-Samuel, Department of Theatre Arts Imo State University, Owerri. & Nduka Otiono, Institute of African Studies, Carleton University, Canada.

Panel 15: Classification, border-crossing, and oral literature

Chairperson: Prof. Chiji Akoma

Venue: Room 4

- 1. Reconfiguring the African Oral Traditions' Classification Matrices: A Case Study of the Performative Structure of the Luo Sigweya.** Rose Opondo & Tobias Otieno, Moi University, Kenya.
- 2. Nwa-Uzu and Nwa Boi in Anambra State for Youth Empowerment.** Onyekachukwu Iwuchukwu National Open University of Nigeria, Abuja.
- 3. I am not for any Dustbin: Orality and Change in Africa.** Daniel Ibrahim, Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida University, Lapai.
- 4. Oralités développées et développement par l'oralité.** Abdoulaye Kouago & Pierre Roméo Akoa Amougui, Université Adam Barka d'Abéché Université de Maroua, Cameroun.

LUNCH BREAK
12:30pm - 1:30pm

EXCURSION
1:30 - 4:00pm

BUSINESS MEETING
4:00PM-5:00PM

INAUGURATION & AWARDS DINNER
5:00PM-8:00PM

SATURDAY, 12 JULY 2025: DEPARTURES